

Remarks

Initially, pursuant to the requirement to elect a single species from among species A (Figs. 1-4), species B (Figs. 5-7), species C (Fig. 8) and species D (Fig. 9), Applicant hereby provisionally elects species A (Figs. 1-4) for further prosecution in this application. Claims 1-4, 8, 9 and 17-20 are readable on the elected species. Further, in addition to claim 1 being generic as indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action, it is submitted that claim 3 is also generic to all of the species A-D. Additionally, it is submitted that claims 2 and 8 are subgeneric claims that encompass both species A and species B.

The election presented above is made with traverse. The present restriction requirement is made under 35 U.S.C. §121 pursuant to traditional U.S. restriction practice; however, the present application is a U.S. National Stage PCT application and, accordingly, traditional U.S. restriction practice does not properly apply to this application. Instead, the Examiner must apply PCT unity of invention practice, and it is submitted that all of the claims of the present application should be examined together under PCT unity of invention practice.

In this regard, the Examiner's attention is directed to M.P.E.P. §1893.03(d), wherein it is stated that "Examiners are reminded that unity of invention (not restriction) practice is applicable in international applications (both chapter I and II) and in National Stage applications submitted under 35 U.S.C. §371."

The specification and abstract have been carefully reviewed and revised to make grammatical and idiomatic improvements in order to aid the Examiner in further consideration of the application. The amendments to the specification and abstract are incorporated in the attached substitute specification and abstract. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and abstract by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In view of the foregoing, favorable action is respectfully requested.

If, after reviewing this Response, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 25, 2006